

In the Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A device for collecting, storing and removing debris from a swimming pool[,] or pond comprising:

a net for collecting said debris, said net having a top open portion, a bottom closed portion with a centerline and a continuous sidewall;

a frame for supporting the net around the perimeter of said net;

a pole [to attach] attached to said frame for holding or manipulating said device; and,

a means connected to said bottom closed portion inside of said net to enlarge and expand said closed portion to maintain said net in an open and receptive position while it is manipulated and moved along and below the water's surface to facilitate the collection and storage of debris, and to be used as a means to grasp said bottom closed portion in the process of emptying said net of debris.

Claim 2 (cancel).

Claim 3 (cancel).

Claim 4 (currently amended): The [invention] device of claim [3] 1 wherein said means connected to said bottom closed portion is ring shaped.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The [invention] device of claim [3] 1 wherein said means connected to said bottom closed portion is triangular in shape.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The [invention] device of claim [3] 1 wherein said means connected to said bottom closed portion is square or rectangular in shape.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The [invention] device of claim [3] 1 wherein said means connected to said bottom closed portion is oval in shape.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The [invention] device of claim 1 wherein said means

connected to said bottom closed portion acts as a weight to assist said device in more easily reaching under the water's surface and dragging itself along the bottom of the pool to collect and store debris.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The [invention] device of claim 1 wherein said means connected to said bottom closed portion is protected from snagging or catching itself on foreign objects.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The [invention] device of claim 1 wherein said means connected to said bottom closed portion is attached to said sidewall adjacent said bottom closed portion.

Claim 11 (cancel).

Claim 12 (new): A device for collecting, storing and removing debris from a swimming pool or pond or any similar body of water comprising:

- a net for collecting said debris, said net having a top open portion, a bottom closed portion with a centerline and a continuous sidewall;

- a generally narrow ring-shaped frame for supporting the net around the perimeter of said net;

- a pole attached directly to said frame for holding and manipulating said device; and,

- a means connected to said bottom closed portion of said net to maintain said net in an open and receptive position while it is manipulated and moved along and below the water's surface to collect, store and remove debris, and to be used as a means to grasp said bottom closed portion while also grasping the pole in the process of emptying said net of debris.

Claim 13 (new): A device for collecting, storing and removing debris from a swimming

pool, pond or similar body of water comprising:

a net for collecting said debris, said net having a top open portion, a bottom closed portion with a centerline and a continuous sidewall;

a frame for supporting the net around the perimeter of said net;

a pole attached to said frame for holding or manipulating said device; and,

a means connected to said bottom closed portion inside of said net to maintain said net in an open and receptive position while it is manipulated and moved along and below the water's surface to collect, store and remove debris, and to be used as a means to grasp said bottom closed portion in the process of emptying said net of debris, said means being attached to said net in a laterally offset manner relative to the centerline of said bottom portion to enable said means to rotate and lay generally horizontal against said bottom portion.